

out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicants regard as the invention. Various amendments were made throughout the claims to bring them into conformity with the requirements of 35 USC 112, second paragraph. Therefore, it is submitted that this rejection is overcome and should be withdrawn.

Specifically, amendments were made to the claims to overcome the objections noted by the Examiner in paragraph 1 of the Office Action.

The Examiner's cooperation is respectfully requested to contact Applications' Attorney by telephone should any further indefinite matter be discovered so that appropriate amendments may be made.

The specification stands objected to due to various informalities noted by the Examiner in paragraph 4 of the Office Action. Various amendments were made throughout the specification to correct minor errors and to correct the informalities noted by the Examiner in paragraph 4 of the Office Action. Therefore, it is submitted that this objection is overcome and should be withdrawn.

The drawings stand objected due to informalities noted by the Examiner in paragraph 5 of the Office Action. Filed herewith are Proposed Drawing Corrections correcting minor errors in the drawings and the informalities noted by the Examiner in paragraph 5 of the Office Action. Therefore, it is submitted that this objection is overcome and should be withdrawn.

Amendments were made to the claims to more clearly describe features of the present invention not taught or suggested by any

of the references of record whether taken individually or in combination with each other. Particularly, amendments were made to the claims to show that first circuits are fed an internal supply voltage and a control signal to cause the driving ability of the voltage limiter means to be controlled by the control signal.

Therefore, the present invention provides unique advantages over the prior art as follows. The present invention provides high speed operation which permits that even if the load capacity is large the voltage limiter means can charge up the load very quickly. Further, the present invention provides for low power consumption being that the voltage limiter means can stop when the load is not in an operation state.

The features of the present invention, as described above, are not taught or suggested by any of the references of record whether taken individually or in combination with each other.

Claims 7-19 stand rejected under 35 USC 103 as being unpatentable over Suzuki. This rejection is traversed for the following reasons. It is submitted that the apparatus of the present invention as now recited in claims 7-19 is not taught or suggested by Suzuki whether taken individually or in combination with the other references of record. Therefore, the Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdrawn this rejection.

The apparatus of the present invention as now recited in claims 7-19 of the present application is not taught or suggested by Suzuki. Suzuki discloses a constant voltage regulator for a

load which may be a computer. The Examiner's attention is directed to column 1, line 38 of Suzuki. Therefore, there is no teaching in Suzuki that the voltage regulator disclosed therein is for a voltage limiter for a LSI circuit (semiconductor integrated circuit) as recited in the claims of the present application.

Therefore, Suzuki does not teach or suggest a semiconductor integrated circuit comprising a chip, first circuit provided on the chip, second circuits provided on the chip and voltage limiter means provided on the chip for reducing an external supply voltage to an internal supply voltage lower than the external supply voltage within the chip as recited in claims 7-19 of the present application.

As clearly recited in the claims of the present application, the voltage limiter means of the present invention is provided to reduce an externally supplied voltage to an internal supply voltage which is lower than the external supply voltage. The internal supply voltage is used in the semiconductor integrated circuit of the present invention to drive the first circuits.

The difference in providing an internal supply voltage in a semiconductor integrated circuit as in the present invention and regulating an input voltage so as to produce an output voltage which is supplied to a computer as taught by Suzuki is an important difference and clearly indicates that the present invention is directed to a technical field entirely different from the technical field to which the apparatus taught by Suzuki is directed. Further in this regard it must be noted that Suzuki

teaches a constant voltage regulator for a electrical device such as a computer to protect the computer or prevent the computer from operating erroneously. The present invention is not at all directed to such an objective being that the present invention provides the voltage limiter means so as to provide two different levels of voltages which are supplied to two different kinds of circuits on the integrated circuit chip with the internal supply voltage being supplied by the voltage limiter means to the first circuits.

The present invention further differs from that disclosed by Suzuki being that the present invention provides for the driving ability of the voltage limiter means to be controlled by the control signal. Such a feature is not taught or suggested by Suzuki.

Therefore, Suzuki fails to teach or suggest that the first circuits are fed with the internal supply voltage and a control signal and the driving ability of the voltage limiter means is controlled by the control signal as recited in the claims of the present application.

Controlling the driving ability of the voltage limiter means permits the present invention to have unique advantages over the prior art of high speed operation and low power consumption as described above.

Therefore, it is submitted that the present invention as now recited in claims 7-19 of the present application is not taught or suggested by Suzuki whether taken individually or in combination with the other references of record.

In the Office Action the Examiner attempted to equate the internal supply voltage recited in the claims of the present application to the voltage  $E_0$  taught by Suzuki. The Examiner is in error being that the voltage  $E_0$  of Suzuki is an output voltage which is supplied to the load which is, for example, a computer. The internal supply voltage of the present invention is not supplied as an output voltage, as taught by Suzuki, but is instead supplied to first circuits which are included within the integrated circuit chip of the present invention.

Therefore, it is submitted that the features of the present invention as recited in claims 7-19 of the present application are not taught or suggested by Suzuki whether taken individually or in combination with the other references of record.

The remaining references of record have been studied. It is submitted that they do not supply the deficiencies noted above with respect the reference utilized in the rejection of claims 7-19.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is submitted that claims 7-19 are in condition for allowance. Accordingly, early allowance of claims 7-19 is respectfully requested.

To the extent necessary, applicants petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. §1.136. Please charge any shortage in the fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account No.

01-2135 (Case No. 501.20699VC1) and please credit any excess fees to such Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Carl I. Brundidge", written over a horizontal line.

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